



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Mark Henry SHIPTON et al.

Group Art Unit: 1709

Application No.: 10/689,100

Examiner: M. MILLER

Filed: October 21, 2003

Docket No.: 117396

For: METHOD OF FORMING A DIFFUSION BARRIER ON A TITANIUM ALLOY
SUBSTRATE

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Claims 1-22 are pending in this application, with claims 13-22 being withdrawn from consideration. In reply to the August 13, 2007 Office Action, reconsideration of the rejections are respectfully requested in light of at least the following remarks.

Claims 1-12, drawn to a method, and claims 13-22, drawn to a substrate, are subject to a restriction requirement. Applicants affirm election of Group a), claims 1-12, with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Specifically, Applicants respectfully submit that the process in claim 1 necessarily produces the products in at least some of claims 13-22. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that at least the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden,